

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANILA 00638 130742Z  
ACTION SS-25

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-----004165 130744Z /10/41

O 122358Z JAN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY MANILA  
TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE  
/AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE 8987  
SECSTATE WASHDC 277  
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 0638

EXDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (FOR TEXT)

MILITARY HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

TOKYO FOR ASST. SECRETARY HOLBROOKE

E. O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: MARR, RP  
SUBJECT: USE OF U.S. BASES IN PHILIPPINES

1. DURING HIS VISIT TO MANILA JANUARY 12, SENATOR RICHARD STONE RAISED WITH ME IMPLICATIONS OF FOLLOWING PARAGRAPH WHICH APPEARED IN TANEDO COLUMN IN MANILA TIME JOURNAL JANUARY 11: QUOTE THE ACCORD ON THE DESIGNATION OF A FILIPINO COMMANDER FOR THE BASES ALTHOUGH WRAPPED IN HAZY DEATILS IS REASSURING. SO IS THE IMMINENT CLARIFICATION OF PHILIPPINE JURISDICTION ON THE U.S. INSTALLATIONS WHICH HAS LONG REMAINED A KNOTTY PROBLEM. ONCE THESE ARE FINALIZED, THE BASES CANNOT BE UTILIZED FOR PURPOSES THAT CONTRAVENE COMMITMENTS OF THIS COUNTRY TO OTHER NATIONS. UNQUOTE.

2. SENATOR STONE SAID THAT ONE ISSUE OF IMPORTANCE WHICH  
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CONCERNED HIM AND OTHER SENATORS WAS POSSIBLE USE OF U.S. DRFACILITIES IN PHILIPPINES FOR CONTINGENCIES IN OTHER PLACES. HE NOTED PHILIPPINE RELATIONS WITH VIETNAMESE, PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA, AND OTHER COMMUNNST COUNTRIES MIGHT LIMITE USE OF BASES. HE ASKED WHETHER THIS HAD BEEN RAISED IN BASE NEGOTIATIONS AND WHEHAER HE MIGHT RAISE QUESTION WHEN HE SAW PRESIDENT MARCOS LATER IN DAY.

3. I REPLIED THAT IT HAD NOT BEEN DISCUSSED IN CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS. DURING VIETNAM WAR WE WERE ABLE TO USE PHILIPPINE BASES FOR LOGISTICAL SUPPORT BUT NOT FOR DIRECT COMBAT MISSIONS. WE PRESUME BASE POSTURE WOULD BE TO RAISE QUESTION ON AD HOC BASIS.

4. STNE SAID HE WAS PARTICULARLY CONCERNED ABOUT KOREA. I CALLED ATTENTION TO PRESIDENT MARCOS' SPEECH ON ARMED FORCES ANNIVERSARY DECEMBER 22 IN WHICH HE HAD SAID PRESENCE OF BASEEIWAS PHILIPPINE CONTRIBUTION TO REGIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY. I ALSO MENTIONED THAT WHEN WE HAD BRIEFED PRESIDENT MARCOS PRIVATELY ON SIGNIFICANCE OF BASES, HE HAD RAISED NO OBJECTION TO SUGGESTION THAT THEY EXISTED FOR LOGISTICAL SUPPORT OF U.S. OPERATIONS IN OTHER PARTS OF AREA.

5. AT END OF CONVERSATION WITH PRESIDENT, SENATOR READ HIM ABOVE PARAGRAPH FROM TIMES JOURNAL AND ASKED WHETHER BASES COULD BE USED FOR SUPPORT OF U.S. EFFORTS, PARTICULARLY IN DEFENSE OF SOUTH KOREA. MARCOS REPLIED THAT SUBJECT HAD NOT ARISEN IN DISCUSSIONS WITH U.S. BUT HE COULD NOT UNDERSTAND PURPOSES OF BASES IF THEY COULD NOT OPERATE IN THIS FASHION. HE SAID THERE WAS DISTINCTION BETWEEN SUPPORT AND COMBAT MISSIONS BUT DID NOT ELABORATE. I REMINDED HIM OF HIS SPEECH ON DECEMBER 22 AND OF BRIEFING WE HAD GIVEN HIM AND I SAID I PRESUMED THAT HE CONFIDENTIAL

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HAD FOUND NOTHING IN THE IMPLIED UTILIZATION OF THE BASES IN THAT BRIEFING TO WHICH HE TOOK EXCEPTION. HE REPLIED QUOTE YES, THAT WAS A VERY GOOD BRIEFING. UNQUOTE

6. SENATOR STONE APPEARED SATISFIED WITH THIS RESPONSE BY MARCOS AND SAID HE WOULD RAISE THIS IN LAPR COMMITTEE DISCUSSION OF PHILIPPINE BASE ISSUE. I REMINDED HIM THAT PUBLIC ATTRIBUTION OF SUCH STATEMENT COULD EMBARRASS MARCOS AND US. HE SAID HE UNDERSTOOD. I SUGGESTSE THAT, IF ANY KIND OF PUBLIC STATEMENT WERE REQUIRED IN SENATE HEARINGS, IT MAY BE SAID THAT THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT UNDERSTOOD THE USE OF OUR BASIS FOR LOGISTICAL SUPPORT AND RAISED NO OBJECTIONS.

-4 IF DEPARTMENT CONCURS, SUGGEST SUBSTANCE OF FOREGOING BE CONVEYED TO ROY WERNER OF SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS. NEWSOM

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY BASES, NEGOTIATIONS, MILITARY BASE AGREEMENTS  
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**Draft Date:** 12 jan 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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